



Montana Department of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

P. O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

(406) 444-2544

Website: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

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SEP 29 2014

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE  
Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-14-29**  
**September 29, 2014**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, statement of basis, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT:	City of Chinook PO Box 1177 Chinook, MT 59523
FACILITY NAME:	City of Chinook Water Treatment Plant
FACILITY LOCATION:	250 Waterworks Lane, Chinook, MT 59523 Blaine County, Latitude 48°34'47"N, Longitude - 109°13'55"W
RECEIVING WATER:	Outfall 001: Milk River
PERMIT NUMBER:	MT0030473

This permit is a reissuance of a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for discharge of treated wastewater from the City of Chinook Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to the Milk River. The City of Chinook operates a conventional surface water treatment plant for water withdrawn from the Milk River. The City of Chinook utilizes alum as a coagulant. Additional chemicals are added throughout the flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and distribution processes. The City of Chinook's potable water is sent to two storage tanks, and the backwash and filter-to-waste discharges flow into two settling ponds that discharge to the Milk River downstream from their raw water intake. The average monthly discharge to the Milk River is at a rate of 0.06 million gallons per day. The proposed permit

will continue to apply best professional judgment limits for total suspended solids (TSS) and pH. New limits for total residual chlorine will be based on an alternative mixing zone. The final limits for dissolved aluminum will remain the same as the previous permit cycle. The proposed permit requires periodic self-monitoring of discharge quality and quantity, with monthly reporting of results. This permit and Statement of Basis will be submitted to the EPA for approval.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit *Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al.*, CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because this is not a new or increased source of pollution to the Milk River.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 29, 2014. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 29, 2014 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail David Dunbar or Barb Sharpe at [WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov](mailto:WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov).

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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